



By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

1st Lt. Jerry Koltz, a platoon leader with the 545th Military Police Company, and an Iraqi policeman confer about an Iraqi police candidate's tattoos at an IP recruiting drive Sept. 29. Some kinds of tattoos, like those applied in prison or in certain segments of the Hussein regime's military, can disqualify a candidate from attending two-month-long police academies in Baghdad or Jordan. The 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Brigade Combat Team recruited 704 candidates during the drive.

## Sharing the Load: NCOs Step In, Up

By Spc. Erik LeDrew  
122nd MPAD

CAMP RUSTAMIYAH, Baghdad, Iraq -- Sitting in a guard tower day-in and day-out pulling guard duty can be enough to burn a Soldier out, and the non-commissioned officers of the Communications section, Headquarters and Distribution Company (HDC), 115th Forward Support Battalion (FSB), understand this.

"We have our whole [section] doing guard duty, not just the lower-enlisted," said El Paso, Texas native Staff Sgt. Manuel Marin, the section supervisor. "We're one team."

Of the 12 Soldiers in Marin's section that do guard duty at Camp Rustamiyah (formerly Camp Cuervo), only five are junior-enlisted and the rest are NCOs.

"I believe we're all

Soldiers and we all have the same mission," added Warner Robins, Ga. native Staff Sgt. Dominic Davis.

When they first arrived here in April, however, sharing guard duty was not something the section practiced.

"When we first got here the NCOs had higher priority missions," said Pfc. Mark Thomas, a section member hailing from New Orleans. "The NCOs had more experience in this field than the rest of us so they were the ones setting up the communications equipment for the camp while the rest of us did guard duty."

According to Marin, the NCOs began sharing the load with his lower-enlisted Soldiers after their second month in Iraq.

"After we had completed installing internet and phone lines around the camp and had settled in, we started helping out our Soldiers," he



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Sgt. Aaron Favors, a member of the communications section with Headquarters and Distribution Company, 115th Forward Support Battalion, serves a guard shift in one of Camp Rustamiyah's guard towers.

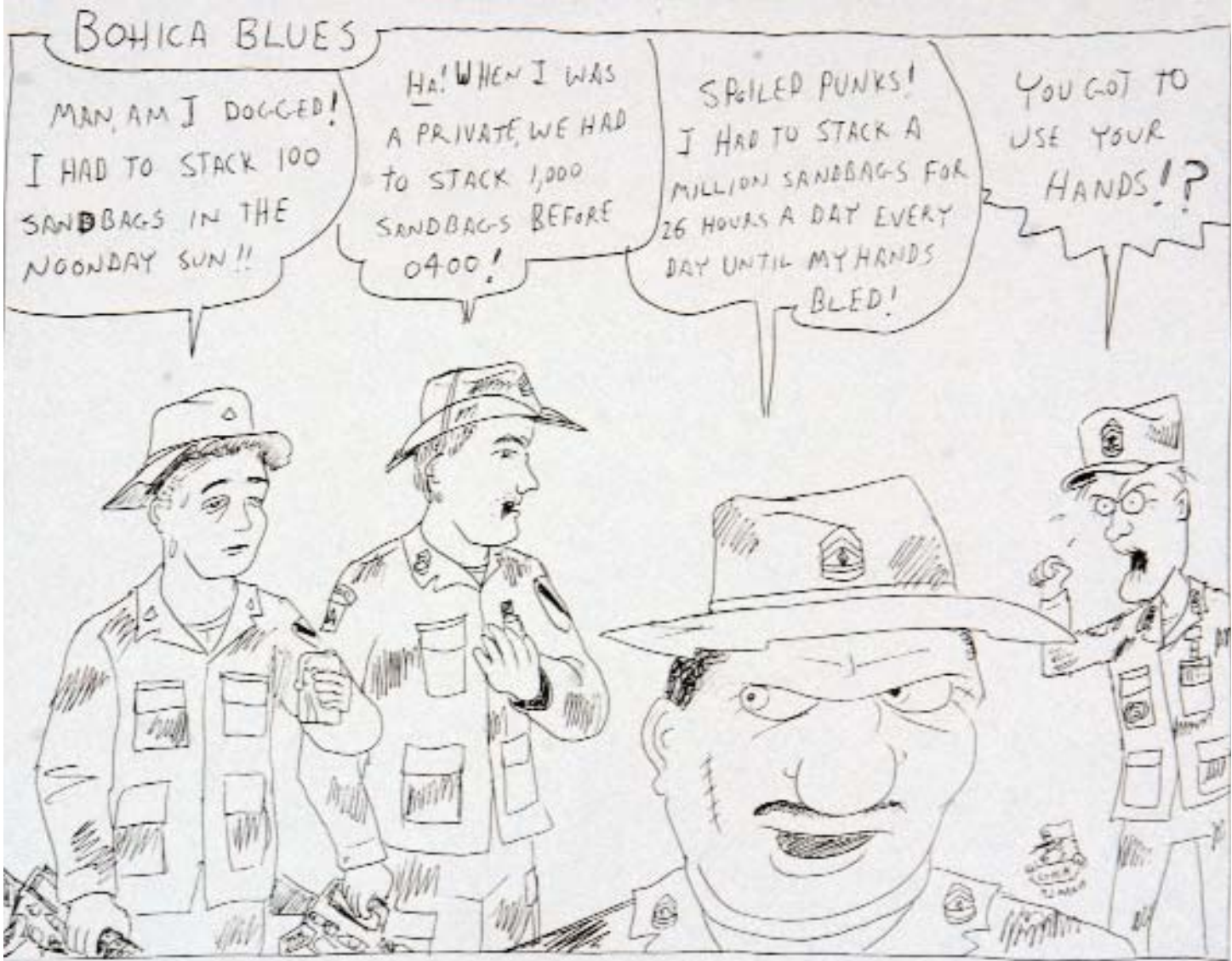
said.

"Now that everybody's trained up, we're all sharing [guard duty]," Thomas added.

"In addition to sharing tower guard," said Sgt. Aaron Favors, a section sergeant from Albany, Ga., "we also trade off guarding the groups

of local Iraqis that come to work on the base."

Although once in a while one of them may have to pull an extra shift or two, depending upon their section's normal workload, Favors maintains that spreading the guard duty out is the fairest way to do it.



Bohica Blues cartoons are drawn by Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, of the 411th Engineer Battalion from Boise, Idaho. His battalion is attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Grant says he draws cartoons as a way to present his, and his Soldiers' opinions to the world. His work is also displayed at the the Antelope (Engineer) dining facility at Camp Al-Tahreer.

## Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

**What's that building?**  
**maa hazaal binaa**

### Saturday

High: 102  
Low: 72



### Sunday

High: 102  
Low: 70



### Monday

High: 100  
Low: 70



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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## News Notes

### Funny Money Afflicts Arkansas

JONESBORO, Ark. (Democrat-Gazette) - So much counterfeit money is circulating in northeast Arkansas that three fake \$20 bills turned up in the till at Craighead County District Court, where people pay fines. Police say the phony cash is circulating in Jonesboro, Blytheville and other areas. "They're just wearing us out with them," Jonesboro detective Lt. Lynn Waterworth said. "These bills are being passed everywhere in northeast Arkansas." The money at the courthouse appeared at an office where misdemeanor fines are paid, police said. Lt. Roger Morphis said the person passing the money could face a felony charge.

### State Recalling Tourist Brochures

OKLAHOMA CITY (Reuters) - Oklahoma tourism officials have recalled about 200,000 brochures with images of activities that may have seemed uninviting to some travelers, such as cow manure tossing and re-enacting Confederate battles, officials said on Wednesday. The pamphlet, called 2005 Annual Events Guide, featured events and activities throughout Oklahoma. It was also riddled with spelling, grammatical and factual mistakes. "We discovered the material in the event guide was culturally insensitive and contained errors," said state tourism director Rob Gray.

## COSCOM Soldiers Honored at Hood

FORT HOOD, Texas (Killeen Daily Herald) - Rows of soldiers stood at attention for more than an hour under cloudy skies Thursday as their comrades were honored for their bravery.

Their backdrop was the armored trucks they used to haul supplies throughout Iraq during their deployment earlier this year.

Soldiers from the 96th Transportation Company, 13th Corps Support Command, received awards Thursday for their accomplishments during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Awards presented to the soldiers included two Bronze Star Medals with the "V" device for valor, seven Purple Hearts for wounds

received in combat, 10 other Bronze Star Medals for service and accomplishment and three Army Commendation Medals with the "V" device.

Maj. Gen. James Simmons, deputy commander of III Corps and commander of Fort Hood, pinned on the soldiers' medals at the ceremony in the unit's motor pool.

"We are here to recognize these great Americans ... these volunteers," he said.

Ninety-eight other soldiers in the company received an Army Commendation Medal.

The ceremony marked the first time in 30 years that a husband and wife have received the Purple Heart in the same formation, Simmons said.



Killeen Daily Herald

Spc. Nancy Romero of Los Angeles, Calif., hugs her husband, Sgt. David Romero of La Ceiba, Honduras, after both received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained in Iraq while their sons wait nearby. Sgt. Romero also received a Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal during the ceremony.

## Officials go to Jail for Jerry's Kids

COPPERAS COVE, Texas (Copperas Cove Herald) - City officials will be making their rounds today asking local businesses and residents for support. But officials won't be asking for a vote, just money - money for bail.

The 2004 Copperas Cove Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock-up will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the Cove Applebee's - or the MDA Maximum Appreciation Facility. More than 70 people are signed up to participate in the roundup and will be "locked up for good." Another 18 people are signed up to be placed under house arrest and charged with having a big heart.

The arrests and jail time may be mock, but the bail is no laughing matter. Each participant will attempt to reach



Copperas Cove Herald

Sgt. Brian Wyers shows off the latest fashion craze that will be slapped on city officials and area citizens this fall. an individual goal of \$1,500 or at least \$600. Jailbirds will be given more than one phone to sing their cases to other local citizens in efforts of raising their bail. Jail inmates will be handed a phone and a

telephone book. Bail money proceeds go toward Jerry's Kids.

"If you like to see city officials behind bars, then this is the event for you," said Kate Jauch, program director for the Waco District of MDA. "Everyone from your mayor and city manager on down will be locked up."

Paddy wagons will be busy in the City of Copperas Cove and surrounding areas as participants are picked up. Lt. Danny Austin of the Cove Police Department, Chief Charles Harber of the Kempner Police Department and five members of the Copperas Cove Police Academy Alumni Association will be patrolling the streets performing mock arrests and mock apprehensions of leading citizens who will be "locked up for good."

## Cards Up, Braves Tied in NL

*Rally in 11th Sinks 'Stros*

ATLANTA (AP) - More than anyone, Rafael Furcal wants the season to last as long as possible.

He made sure the Atlanta Braves play at least two more games.

Set to report to jail once the postseason ends, Furcal hit a two-out, two-run homer in the 11th inning that sent the Braves over the Houston Astros 4-2 Thursday and tied their NL playoff series at one game each.

"It was awesome," teammate Adam LaRoche said. "For as much pressure as has been put on him, knowing what's going to happen to him after we're done. I don't know how he's able to do it."

*Cards Slam LA Again*

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Mike Matheny, Edgar Renteria

and the St. Louis Cardinals can win with singles, doubles and triples, too.

In Game 1, the Cardinals tied a postseason record with five home runs. They stayed in the ballpark for Game 2 on Thursday, but the result was exactly the same: another 8-3 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"I think we're capable of playing a lot of different ways," manager Tony La Russa said. "Sometimes you take whatever the pitcher gives you."

A trio of MVP candidates has carried the Cardinals' offense much of the year, with Scott Rolen, Albert Pujols and Jim Edmonds each driving in 100 runs. Those three were 1-for-11 in Game 2, but the bottom of the order picked them up by going 8-for-10



Los Angeles Dodgers' pitcher Giovanni Carrara reacts after giving up a two RBI single with five RBIs and five runs scored.

"It's always nice to take a little pressure off those guys and make them feel like they don't have to carry us every game," Matheny said.

## Air Force Tees Off on Other Services

FORT CARSON, Colo. (Army News) - The Army finished second in the 2004 Armed Forces Golf Championships at Fort Carson, Colo., Sept. 20 to 24, behind the Air Force.

Thirty-six of the best golfers from the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps - six men and three women from each service - converged on Fort Carson Golf Club for the four-day team and individual tournament. Amidst some precarious winter-like weather during the first two days of the competition, scores ranged from near par to well over par. The final two days of the tournament saw a return to more seasonable weather and a tougher course.

Air Force Capt. Jeff Scohy of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio,



Army News

Sgt. Patrick Hawthorne of Fort Meade, Md., tees off on the second hole at the Fort Carson Golf Course in Colorado.

claimed the overall men's title with a 283 total. Air Force 2nd Lt. Karin Tjelmeland of Lajes Air Base, Azore Islands, fin-

ished first for the women with a score of 341.

Air Force made it a clean sweep by taking the team title with a score of 2,793, followed by Army (2,842), Navy (3,000) and Marine Corps (3,096).

Despite the unseasonably cold weather, many of the golfers said the course held up well and was great to play.

"It's a real nice golf course," said Army Sgt. Patrick Hawthorne of Fort Meade, Md. "It was 43 degrees and raining [the first day], but this tournament is very good."

Hawthorne was among the final threesome in the last day of competition and finished in a three-way tie for third. He was awarded fifth place after losing on the second hole of a playoff.

## In Brief

### Tommy Lee is a Cornhusker

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Multi-tattooed rocker Tommy Lee, a high school dropout, plunged into life as a University of Nebraska student Thursday - for reality TV. Lee mingled with fellow Cornhuskers for an NBC show in which he'll take classes in chemistry, literature and the history of rock 'n' roll. Flanked by production crews and cameras, Lee bought books and Nebraska apparel at the University Bookstore while a mass of onlookers strained for a glimpse.

### Lewis Guilty on Drug Charge

ATLANTA (AP) - Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis



pleaded guilty Thursday to using a cell phone to try to set up a drug deal and will be sentenced to four months in prison, to be served after the regular season ends in January. Lewis still could be suspended this season by the NFL, which said Thursday it would have no immediate decision on any punishment. "I made a mistake four years ago, when I was 20 years old, that I am paying heavily for," Lewis said. Lewis ran for 2,066 yards last season, the second-highest total in NFL history.



# Taji Spots Strongmen in Comp

By Sgt. Dan Purcell  
122nd MPAD

CAMP TAJI, Baghdad, Iraq - Their goals, like their weight and ages, varied as 37 Soldiers competed in the first 'Strong Man' weight lifting competition September 30 at the 1st Cavalry Division's northernmost base camp (formerly known as Camp Cooke).

The event was sponsored by Sgt. 1st Class Lorenzo Billups, 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment (AVN), and Sgt. Eric Preus, 126 Aviation Detachment, Massachusetts National Guard, both part of the 4th Brigade Combat Team.

Billups said the competition took over two months of planning and preparation to pull it all together and was open to both men and women willing to flex their muscles, many of whom were amateurs and had just started lifting weights in preparation for the event.

"Basically, the competition centered on three lifts on the bench press," he said. "For the men, scoring was based on an aggregate of three successful lifts where we took the combined weight and subtracted the individual's body weight for a total number of points. The women didn't have to weigh in because their scores were based on the combined weight of three successful lifts."

During the competition, participants cheered for each other, as did a growing number of Soldiers who were at the gym just to work out.

Reaching or exceeding personal goals drove each participant.

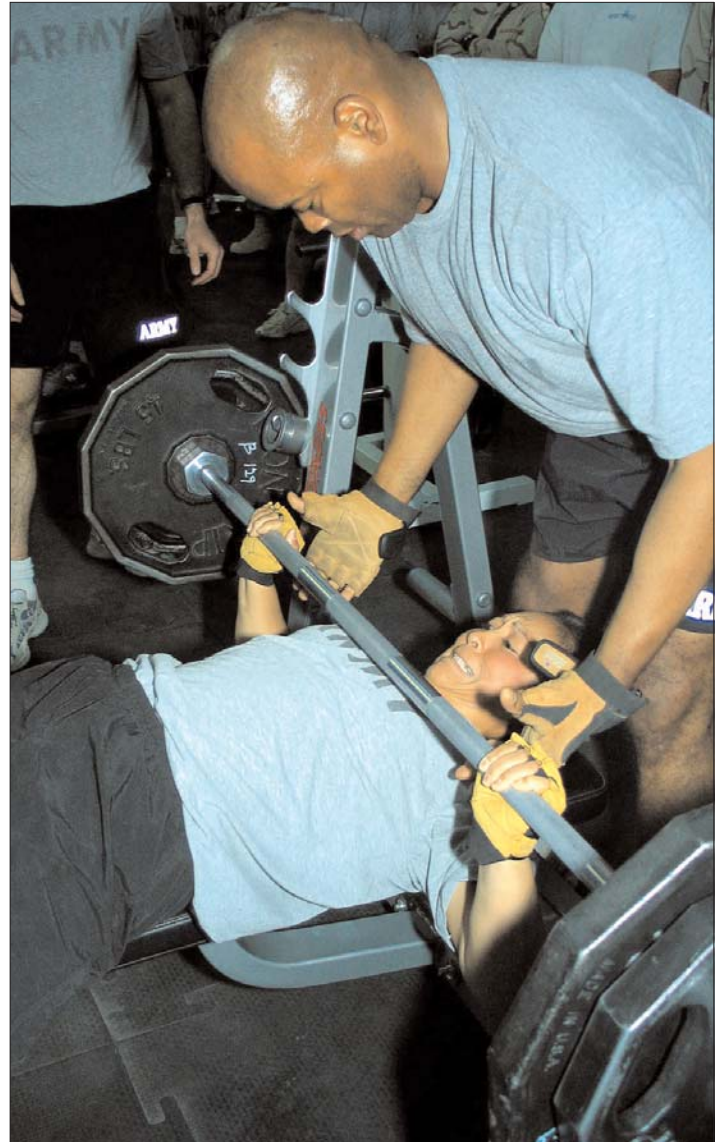
"The competition included seven women and 30 men, ranging in ages from 18 to 47," Preus said. "The event went really well and everyone did great. I'm really happy that all those who attended came out to do their personal best and that's what this was all about."

For Billups and Preus, getting the Strong Man competition took a lot of time and effort.

"I took a 12-year break from weightlifting and didn't start again until after we got here in April," Billups said. "Within two months I had met my goal of 465 pounds. It was during this time I started formulating the idea for the competition because I started thinking that here we are isolated from our homes, and even though the mission is always first...we still had a lot of people coming to the gym to work out and stay, so I thought this event would be good to get people focused on something other than just work."

"I got involved when (Sgt. 1st Class) Billups and I started talking about putting something together," Preus recalled. "So, I started coordinating with some people at Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) and Kellog, Brown and Root (KBR) to get some t-shirts and prizes for the event."

Due to the success of the Strong Man competition, Billups and Preus are planning to hold another event ... with a slightly different venue.



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD  
Sgt. First Class Lorenzo Billups, Strong Man Competition coordinator, spots for Sgt. Sherilyn Dabis during the women's event. Both Soldiers are assigned to Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment.

"We plan on having another event in December and expand on what we did here. There will be three events to include the bench press, the squats and, if I can get the real estate, there will be a Humvee and LMTV push," Billups grinned.

All the participants in the Strong Man competi-

tion will receive T-shirts commemorating the event.

In the women's division, Sgt. Sherilynn Dabis, 2-227th Aviation, took first place with a combined score of 400 points. In the men's division, Staff Sgt. John Quaye, 1st Battalion, 23rd Stryker Brigade took first place with an aggregate score of 753 points.